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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/355,732
Applicant : MARUYAMA
Filed : August 4, 1999
TC/A.U. : 2682
Examiner : L. Nguyen

Docket No. : 1137-782
Customer No. : 06449
Confirmation No. : 6854

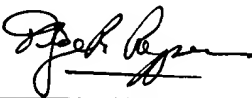
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

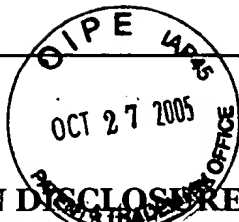
Director of the United States Patent
and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (i), Applicant submits herewith information to be placed in the file of the subject application. Enclosed herewith is a European Office Action received in connection with the European Patent Application corresponding to the above-referenced application. Also cited on accompanying Form PTO-1449 is U.S. Patent No. 5,583,869, newly cited in the accompanying Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	09/355,732
				Filing Date	August 4, 1999
				First Named Inventor	MARUYAMA
				Group Art Unit	2682
				Examiner Name	L. Nguyen
				Confirmation No.	6854
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	1137-782

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
	1	5,583,869		GRUBE et al.	12-10-1996

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.